

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 1171

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GOODMAN.

Read 1st time February 21, 2008, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

5254S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 313.812, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the issuance of licenses to operate excursion gambling boats, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 313.812, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 313.812, to read as follows:

313.812. 1. **Except as provided in subsection 15 of this section,** the commission may issue licenses pursuant to subsection 1 of section 313.807 when it is satisfied that the applicant has complied with all rules and regulations, including an update of all information provided to the commission in the licensee's initial application. The commission shall decide the number, location and type of excursion gambling boat in a city or county under subsection 10 of this section. The license shall set forth the name of the licensee, the type of license granted, the place where the excursion gambling boat will operate and dock, including the docking of an excursion gambling boat which is continuously docked, and other information the commission deems appropriate. The commission shall have the ultimate responsibility of deciding the number, location, and type of excursion gambling boats licensed in a city or county; however, any city or county which has complied with the provisions of subsection 10 of this section shall submit to the commission a plan outlining the following:

(1) The recommended number of licensed excursion gambling boats operating in such city or county;

(2) The recommended licensee or licensees operating in such city or county;

(3) The community's economic development or impact and affirmative

20 action plan concerning minorities' and women's ownership, contracting and
21 employment for the waterfront development;

22 (4) The city or county proposed sharing of revenue with any other
23 municipality;

24 (5) Any other information such city or county deems necessary; and

25 (6) Any other information the commission may determine is necessary.

26 The commission shall provide for due dates for receiving such plan from the city
27 or county.

28 2. A license to operate an excursion gambling boat shall only be granted
29 to an applicant upon the express conditions that:

30 (1) The applicant shall not, by a lease, contract, understanding, or
31 arrangement of any kind, grant, assign, or turn over to a person the operation of
32 an excursion gambling boat licensed under this section or of the system of
33 wagering described in section 313.817. This section does not prohibit a
34 management contract with a person licensed by the commission; and

35 (2) The applicant shall not in any manner permit a person other than the
36 licensee and the management licensee to have a share, percentage, or proportion
37 of the money received for admissions to the excursion gambling boat.

38 3. The commission shall require, as a condition of granting a license, that
39 an applicant operate an excursion gambling boat which, as nearly as practicable,
40 resembles or is a part of Missouri's or the home dock city's or county's riverboat
41 history.

42 4. The commission shall encourage through its rules and regulations the
43 use of Missouri resources, goods and services in the operation of any excursion
44 gambling boat.

45 5. The excursion gambling boat shall provide for nongaming areas, food
46 service and a Missouri theme gift shop. The amount of space used for gaming
47 shall be determined in accordance with all rules and regulations of the
48 commission and the United States Coast Guard safety regulations.

49 6. A license to operate gambling games or to operate an excursion
50 gambling boat shall not be granted unless the applicant has, through clear and
51 convincing evidence, demonstrated financial responsibility sufficient to meet
52 adequately the requirements of the proposed enterprise.

53 7. Each applicant shall establish by clear and convincing evidence its
54 fitness to be licensed. Without limitation, the commission may deny a license
55 based solely on the fact that there is evidence that any of the following apply:

56 (1) The applicant has been suspended from operating an excursion
57 gambling boat or a game of chance or gambling operation in another jurisdiction
58 by a board or commission of that jurisdiction;

59 (2) The applicant is not the true owner of the enterprise proposed;

60 (3) The applicant is not the sole owner, and other persons have ownership
61 in the enterprise, which fact has not been disclosed;

62 (4) The applicant is a corporation that is not publicly traded and ten
63 percent or more of the stock of the corporation is subject to a contract or option
64 to purchase at any time during the period for which the license is to be issued
65 unless the contract or option was disclosed to the commission and the commission
66 approved the sale or transfer during the period of the license;

67 (5) The applicant has knowingly made a false statement of a material fact
68 to the commission; or

69 (6) The applicant has failed to meet a valid, bona fide monetary obligation
70 in connection with an excursion gambling boat.

71 8. A license shall not be granted if the applicant has not established his
72 good repute and moral character or if the applicant has pled guilty to, or has been
73 convicted of, a felony. No licensee shall employ or contract with any person who
74 has pled guilty to, or has been convicted of, a felony to perform any duties directly
75 connected with the licensee's privileges under a license granted pursuant to this
76 section, except that employees performing nongaming related occupations as
77 determined by the commission shall be exempt from the requirements of this
78 subsection.

79 9. A licensee shall not lend to any person money or any other thing of
80 value for the purpose of permitting that person to wager on any gambling game
81 authorized by law. This does not prohibit credit card or debit card transactions
82 or cashing of checks. Any check cashed must be deposited within twenty-four
83 hours. The commission may require licensees to verify a sufficient account
84 balance exists before cashing any check. Any licensee who violates the provisions
85 of this subsection shall be subject to an administrative penalty of five thousand
86 dollars for each violation. Such administrative penalties shall be assessed and
87 collected by the commission.

88 10. Gambling excursions including the operation of gambling games on an
89 excursion gambling boat which is not continuously docked shall be allowed only
90 on the Mississippi River and the Missouri River. No license to conduct gambling
91 games on an excursion gambling boat in a city or county shall be issued unless

92 and until the qualified voters of the city or county approve such activities
93 pursuant to this subsection. The question shall be submitted to the qualified
94 voters of the city or county at a general, primary or special election upon the
95 motion of the governing body of the city or county or upon the petition of fifteen
96 percent of the qualified voters of the city or county determined on the basis of the
97 number of votes cast for governor in the city or county at the last election held
98 prior to the filing of the petition. The question shall be submitted in
99 substantially the following form:

100 Shall the City (County) of allow the licensing of excursion
101 gambling boats or floating facilities as now or hereafter provided by Missouri
102 gaming law in the city (county)?

103 ☐ YES ☐ NO

104 If a majority of the votes cast on the question by the qualified voters voting
105 thereon are in favor of the question, then the commission may license excursion
106 gambling boats in that city or county and such boats may operate on the
107 Mississippi River and the Missouri River. If a majority of the votes cast on the
108 question by the qualified voters voting thereon are opposed to the question, then
109 the commission shall not license such excursion gambling boats in such city or
110 county unless and until the question is again submitted to and approved by a
111 majority of the qualified voters of the city or county at a later election.

112 Excursion gambling boats may only dock in a city or unincorporated area of a
113 county which approves licensing of such excursion gambling boats pursuant to
114 this subsection, but gambling operations may be conducted at any point on the
115 Mississippi River or the Missouri River during an excursion. Those cities and
116 counties which have approved by election pursuant to this subsection, except
117 those cities or counties which have subsequently rejected by election, the
118 licensing of any type of excursion gambling boats in the city or county prior to
119 April 6, 1994, are exempt from any local election requirement of this section as
120 such previous election shall have the same effect as if held after May 20, 1994.

121 11. If a docking fee is charged by a city or a county, a licensee operating
122 an excursion gambling boat shall pay the docking fee prior to the start of the
123 excursion season.

124 12. Any licensee shall not be delinquent in the payment of property taxes
125 or other taxes or fees or in the payment of any other contractual obligation or
126 debt due or owed to the state or a political subdivision of the state.

127 13. An excursion gambling boat licensed by the state shall meet all of the

128 requirements of chapter 306, RSMo, and is subject to an inspection of its sanitary
129 facilities to protect the environment and water quality by the commission or its
130 designee before a license to operate an excursion gambling boat is issued by the
131 commission. Licensed excursion gambling boats shall also be subject to such
132 inspections during the period of the license as may be deemed necessary by the
133 commission. The cost of such inspections shall be paid by the licensee.

134 14. A holder of any license shall be subject to imposition of penalties,
135 suspension or revocation of such license, or if the person is an applicant for
136 licensure, the denial of the application, for any act or failure to act by himself or
137 his agents or employees, that is injurious to the public health, safety, morals,
138 good order and general welfare of the people of the state of Missouri, or that
139 would discredit or tend to discredit the Missouri gaming industry or the state of
140 Missouri unless the licensee proves by clear and convincing evidence that it is not
141 guilty of such action. The commission shall take appropriate action against any
142 licensee who violates the law or the rules and regulations of the
143 commission. Without limiting other provisions of this subsection, the following
144 acts or omissions may be grounds for such discipline:

145 (1) Failing to comply with or make provision for compliance with sections
146 313.800 to 313.850, the rules and regulations of the commission or any federal,
147 state or local law or regulation;

148 (2) Failing to comply with any rule, order or ruling of the commission or
149 its agents pertaining to gaming;

150 (3) Receiving goods or services from a person or business entity who does
151 not hold a supplier's license but who is required to hold such license by the
152 provisions of sections 313.800 to 313.850 or the rules and regulations of the
153 commission;

154 (4) Being suspended or ruled ineligible or having a license revoked or
155 suspended in any state of gaming jurisdiction;

156 (5) Associating with, either socially or in business affairs, or employing
157 persons of notorious or unsavory reputation or who have extensive police records,
158 or who have failed to cooperate with any officially constituted investigatory or
159 administrative body and would adversely affect public confidence and trust in
160 gaming;

161 (6) Employing in any gambling games' operation or any excursion
162 gambling boat operation, any person known to have been found guilty of cheating
163 or using any improper device in connection with any gambling game;

164 (7) Use of fraud, deception, misrepresentation or bribery in securing any
165 permit or license issued pursuant to sections 313.800 to 313.850;

166 (8) Obtaining or attempting to obtain any fee, charge, or other
167 compensation by fraud, deception, or misrepresentation;

168 (9) Incompetence, misconduct, gross negligence, fraud, misrepresentation
169 or dishonesty in the performance of the functions or duties regulated by sections
170 313.800 to 313.850.

171 **15. The commission shall be prohibited to issue any new license**
172 **to operate excursion gambling boats in the state before August 28, 2010.**
173 **If one or more of the licenses issued prior to August 28, 2008 under this**
174 **subsection expires, is not renewed, is forfeited, or revoked, then the**
175 **commission may issue a new license to replace the license that expired,**
176 **was not renewed, was forfeited, or revoked, but such license shall only**
177 **be issued for the same excursion gambling boat or another excursion**
178 **gambling boat which will be located in the same or adjoining city,**
179 **county, or city not within a county as the excursion gambling boat**
180 **whose license expired, was not renewed, was forfeited, or revoked.**

Bill ✓

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